

Appln No. 09/592,442  
Amdt date November 26, 2003  
Reply to Office action of July 31, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

---

1. (Currently Amended) A system for managing policy services in an organization, the organization including a first network having a first set of resources and a second network remote from the first network having a second set of resources, the system comprising:

6  
A a first edge device associated with the first network[~~the first edge device configured to manage policies for the first network and the first set of resources in accordance with first policy settings stored in a first database~~];

a second edge device associated with the second network[~~the second edge device configured to manage policies for the second network and the second set of resources in accordance with second policy settings stored in a second database~~]; and

a [central] policy server in communication with the first and second edge devices, [~~the central policy server configured to define the first and second policy settings and monitor health and status of the first and second edge devices from a single location.~~]

wherein the first and second edge devices each collect health and status information associated with its set of resources, formats the health and status information according to a predetermined log format, and transmits the formatted

Appln No. 09/592,442

Amdt date November 26, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 31, 2003

health and status information to the policy server, the policy server correlating the formatted health and status information from the first and second edge devices and providing a centralized view of the health and status of the first and second edge devices from a single location.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the central policy server includes:

a log collecting and archiving module for periodically receiving health and status information from each of the edge devices;

A6 an archive database coupled to the log collecting and archiving module for storing the health and status information; and

a reports module coupled to the archive database for creating reports based on the health and status information.

3. Cancelled

4. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the health and status information includes network flow information of packets flowing through the edge device.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the each edge device maintains a byte count of the packets flowing through the edge device, wherein the byte count is organized according to resources associated with the packets.

Appln No. 09/592,442

Amdt date November 26, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 31, 2003

6. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the health and status information includes statistics on use of each edge device's set of resources.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the reports indicate usage of the resources associated with a particular edge device over a period of time.

8. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the central policy server further includes means for determining when each of the edge devices is to transfer the health and status information to the log collecting and archiving module.

9. (Currently Amended) In a system including a first network having a first set of resources and a second network remote from the first network having a second set of resources, the first network being associated with a first edge device [~~and a first database,~~] and the second network being associated with a second edge device [~~and a second database,~~] the system further including a central policy server in communication with the first and second edge devices, [~~the central policy server being associated with a central database,~~] a method for managing policy services in the system comprising:

[~~storing configuration information of the first and second edge devices in the central database,~~]

[~~storing first policy settings in the first database,~~]

[~~storing second policy settings in the second database,~~]

Appln No. 09/592,442

Amdt date November 26, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 31, 2003

~~[managing policies for the first network and the first set of resources from the first edge device in accordance with the first policy settings stored in the first database;]~~

~~[managing policies for the second network and the second set of resources from the second edge device in accordance with the second policy settings stored in the second database; and]~~

~~[defining the first and second policy settings and monitoring health and status of the first and second edge devices from the central policy server.]~~

collecting at the first edge device first health and status information associated with the first set of resources;

formatting the first health and status information at the first edge device according to a predetermined log format;

collecting at the second edge device second health and status information associated with the second set of resources;

formatting the second health and status information at the second edge device according to the predetermined log format;

transmitting the formatted first and second health and status information to the central policy server;

correlating the formatted first and second health and status information at the policy server; and

providing a centralized view of the health and status of the first and second edge devices from a single location.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the monitoring further comprises:

periodically receiving health and status information from each of the edge devices;

**Appln No. 09/592,442**

**Amdt date November 26, 2003**

**Reply to Office action of July 31, 2003**

storing the health and status information in an archive database; and

creating reports based on the health and status information.

11. Cancelled.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the health and status information includes network flow information.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

maintaining a byte count of the packets flowing through the edge device; and

organizing the byte count according to resources associated with the packets.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the health and status information includes statistics on use of each edge device's set of resources.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the reports indicate usage of the resources associated with a particular edge device over a period of time.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the monitoring further comprises determining when each of the edge devices is to transfer the health and status information to

Appln No. 09/592,442

Amdt date November 26, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 31, 2003

X [the] a log collecting and archiving module maintained at the policy server.

---

17. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the predetermined log format includes a service field indicating a type of service rendered by the edge device.

18. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the predetermined log format includes an identifier of a source transmitting a packet received by the edge device.

A 19. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the predetermined log format includes a status field indicating a status of a service rendered by the edge device.

20. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined log format includes a service field indicating a type of service rendered by the edge device.

21. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined log format includes an identifier of a source transmitting a packet received by the edge device.

22. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined log format includes a status field indicating a status of a service rendered by the edge device.

---